

A TRUE  
ACCOUNT

OF THE

Horrid Conspiracy

Against the LIFE of His Sacred Majesty

WILLIAM III.

KING of England, Scotland, France  
and Ireland, &c.

Setting forth by whom it was Contrived, How it was to be Carried  
on; And the Manner of its Discovery.

---

Published by Authority.

---



---

EDINBURGH, Re-printed in the Year, 1693. ✓

THE  
ACCOUNT

OF THE  
Society of Friends

for the Year 1833  
WILLIAM III.

of England, Scotland, France  
and Ireland, &c.

And the Names of the Members who were  
admitted during the Year 1833.



## A TRUE ACCOUNT

Of the Horrid Conspiracy against the Life of His Sacred Majesty, WILLIAM III. King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, &c.

SOME of the Ministers in the Highest Employments, and of the Greatest Credit in the French Court, having formed a Design to Assassinate His Majesty of *Great-Britain*, they made choice of one *Bartholomew de Liniers* Kt. *Sieur de Grandval*, as their Instrument, to manage the Enterprize, to find out Persons fit to be employed in it, to Engage them by Promises of great Rewards, as also to be Aiding and Assisting in his own Person.

The said *Grandval* being informed, That one *Anthony du Mont* had already been engaged in this Design, in the Life-time of the late Marquiss of *Louvois*, he proposed it to him again, to execute the same, by Order of the Marquiss of *Barbesieux*, and some others. Whereupon several Projects were drawn up, several Petitions delivered, and many Conferences were held, and at last the Resolution was taken to bring it to effect the last Campaign 1691. But the Providence of G. O. D. having disappointed them, yet notwithstanding they did not let fall the Prosecution of their horrid Design. But *Grandval* was Employed frequently to write to *du Mont* (who was retired to *Hanover*) to stir him up to another Attempt this Campaign, which at last they agreed upon.

One *Leefdale* coming to *Paris* about that time, *Grandval* making an acquaintance with him, discovered to him the said Design, which *Leefdale* shewed a willingness to be concerned in; But soon after gave Notice of it by Letters to his Relations in *Holland*, that they might inform His Majesty. And the like Discovery was made by *du Mont* to his Highness the Duke of *Zell*, who acquainted His Majesty with it, about the same time that he received the other Account.

In the mean time *Grandval* having appointed *du Mont* a Rendezvous at *Uden* in the Countrey of *Ravestein*, he set out from *Paris* in Company with *Leefdale*, passing through *Brussels*, where he communicated his Design to one *John d'Amours*, who was formerly a Domestick Servant to *Leefdale's* Father. From whence they went to *Antwerp*, and so to *Eyndhoven*, where *Grandval* was seized and carryed to *Bais le Duc*.

His Majesty directing the Examinations to be taken there, *Leefdale* was first Examined, who Declared, with great Exactness, all the circumstances of the Conspiracy. But it is not necessary to mention more of them here, then that *Grandval* told him, The King of Great-Britain was look'd upon as the only Obstacle to the French Kings Designs. That *Grandval* had sent to *du Mont* last Winter above 200 Pistols, to keep him firm to the Business; and that he sent him Ten Ducats from *Brussels* by Bill of Exchange. That whilst they were at *Mont*, a Report being spread of some Disorders in *Scotland*, which would oblige His Majesty to cross the Sea again: *Grandval* fearing it might happen before he could execute his Design, spoke to *Leefdale* in these Words; Dear Friend, we are like to lose our Fortunes: I beg of you that we may go away immediately.

*John d'Amours* being next Examined, Deposed, That *Grandval* told him at *Brussels*, He had a great Business to do, which had miscarried the last year. And they two falling into a Discourse about His Majesty, *John d'Amours* ask'd *Grandval*, If he had any thing to say to the King? Yes, answered he, To break his Neck. *John d'Amours* representing to him the Difficulties that might attend such an Attempt; *Grandval* reply'd, I have given my Word to Monsieur *Batbifaux*, and I'll do it. *D'Amours* adds further, That going one day with *Grandval* and *Leefdale* by the *Jesuits* Church at *Brussels*, *Grandval* said, Let us go in and say a *Pater Noster*, that GOD would bless our Undertaking: And accordingly they went into the Church.

*Du Mont* having been examined since, has own'd the Fact in all its Circumstances; adding several other Particulars, viz. That *Madam Maintenon* was acquainted with the Design; and that *Grandval*, in one of his Letters sent to him, used this expression, That he would accommodate the Matter by the means of *Madam Maintenon*. That *Grandval* told him, the Business succeeding, he (speaking of himself) should have

an ample *Recompence* even to be a Duke. That whilst he was at *Hanover* he imparted the Design to *Monsieur Bedal*, alias *Hasselt*, who was at that time the *French Kings* Minister in that Court; That he shewed to the said *Monsieur Bedal* all the Letters he Writ to *Monsieur Barbescieux* and *Grandval*, as also the Answers he received from them, That the said *Bedal* approved the Design, saying, It would be a very good Business if it could be brought to pass; And that *Bedal* lent him 50 Crowns at *Hanover*. *Du Mont* adds further, That he was intimately acquainted with one *Miller*, an Agent for *Bedal*; that the said *Miller* told him, as a great Secret, That *Bedal* had sent him several times to *Holland* with Dispatches, that came from *France*, for *Monsieur Moreau* Envoy to the King of *Poland*; that he always gave those *Paquets* into *Monsieur Moreau's* own hand, and *Monsieur Moreau* gave him the Answers to them in like manner. And that by the help of *Monsieur Bedal* and *Monsieur Moreau*, the Court of *France* managed their choicest Correspondence in *Holland*.

At last *Grandval* was Examined, who perceiving that the Matter was discovered, and that his own Letters could be produced to Convict him, he ingenuously confessed all the Circumstances of the Design, as they are particularized in the Sentence.

After which *Grandval* being brought to the Army, he was put upon his Trial, before a Grand Court Martial, consisting of General Officers, where he appeared several times, together with the Witnesses above mentioned, who not only persisted in what they had already deposed, but added many other Particulars and Circumstances, of which there were very few that *Grandval* did not agree to, and that freely, without so much as naming the Rack to him, either before or after Sentence.

*Grandval* during his Imprisonment, drew up two Petitions to be presented to His Majesty all written with his own Hand, in which he says, That as to the before-mentioned Design, He acted in it, but in Obedience to the Orders he had received from *Monsieur Barbescieux* and *Monsieur Chanlais*. That *Du Mont* was Guilty; That *Leefdale* was Guilty; And that he (*Grandval*) was Guilty, since every one that Conspires against a Crown'd Head is worthy of Death, acknowledging his own Fault.



The Judges after this having met several times, at last gave this Sentence, which is here Inserted Word for Word.

**W**HEREAS *Bartholomew de Liniere* Kt. *Sieur de Grandval*, Born at *Liniere* in *Picardie*, Aged about 43. Years, and now a Prisoner, hath confessed before the *Grand Court-Martial*, without any Constraining, by Pain, or being in Irons, ; and it further appearing to the said *Court-Martial*, That the late *Marquiss de Louvois*, in his Lifetime, Secretary of State to the *French King*, in the year 1691, Entered into an Agreement with one *Anthony du Mont*, about the Murder of His Majesty *William the III.* King of Great Britain, &c. and that the said *Du Mont* had framed a Project, setting forth in what manner that Design might be Executed ; that he delivered the said Project to the said *Marquiss of Louvois* ; That the Prisoner sometime before the *Marquiss of Louvois's* Death, asking his leave to go somewhere else, was ordered by the said *Marquiss* not to go away, for that he had some business of Consequence to employ him in, which the Prisoner supposes to have some Relation to the said Design, but the *Marquiss of Louvois* dying some time after, there was no further Progress then made in the said Design.

That the *Marquiss of Barbesieux*, Son to the said *Marquiss of Louvois*, as also Secretary of State to the *French King*, having five days after his Fathers Death found the said Project, together with a Warrant for Thirty Pistols to be payed to the said *Du Mont*, among his Fathers Papers ; the said Design was reviv'd again, and the Thirty Pistols were payed accordingly. That the Prisoner contracted an Acquaintance with *Du Mont* at *Monsieur Rabenac's* House, where *Monsieur Paparel*, Pay-Master-General to the *French Kings* Armies, saying one day to *Monsieur Rabenac*, ( the Prisoner being present ) That if they had a Mind to seize the King of England, *Du Mont* would be a fit Person for it ; *Du Mont* reply'd with Execrations, that he would carry off His Majesty alive or dead, as he had promised to *Monsieur de Louvois*.

That *Du Mont* having delivered the same, or the like Project to *Monsieur de Barbesieux*, the Prisoner to promote the said Design, had several Conferences with *Monsieur Barbesieux* and *Monsieur Paparel*, in one of which, *Monsieur Barbesieux* told the Prisoner, That he suspected his Father was Poysoned by Order of the Prince of Orange, ( meaning his present Majesty of Great Britain ) and therefore he would be Revenged of him ; That *Monsieur Barbesieux* told the Prisoner in another Conference, That he should give *Du Mont* notice that His Majesty of Great Britain wore a Coat of Mail, which the Prisoner acquainted *Du Mont* with, he Answer'd thereupon, It is no matter, I'll kill him for all that ; That *Barbesieux* had said further, He would not speak himself with *Du Mont*, fearing he might be taken Prisoner ; and if he should happen then to Name him, it might make a great breach in his Fortune.

That

That the Prisoner was engaged with one *Parker*, a Colonel belonging to the late King *James*, to put the said Design in Execution: and that *Parker* had told him, He had form'd the said Design with the late Marquis of *Louvois*.

That at last, the Prisoner, with the said *Barbeseux*, *Paparell*, *Parker*, and *Du Mont*, agreed upon the Manner of Executing the said Design, viz. That the Prisoner, and *Parker*, should meet at the Grand Guard of the Duke of *Luxemburg's* Army, where they were to have 1500 Horse; That *Du Mont* should go to the King of *England's* Army, and watch the time when His Majesty went to visit the Grand Guard; and at the same time he was to Shoot His Majesty; that the Prisoner and *Parker* with 1500 Horse were to Rescue and bring him off, the said *Du Mont* giving timely Notice to the Prisoner of the intended Execution. That *Barbeseux* giving the Prisoner Orders to accompany *Du Mont* to *Menin*, he gave him at the same time an Order to the Duke of *Luxemburg* for furnishing the Prisoner with such a Detachment of Horse as he should require, and think necessary for the Design.

That the Prisoner by Monsieur *Barbeseux's* Order, Receiv'd of Monsieur *Paparell* 80 Lewis d'Or; and in pursuance of Monsieur *Barbeseux's* Directions, he gave to *Du Mont* 55. Lewis d'Or out of that Sum, viz. 15 Pistols in Specie, and a Bill of Exchange for 460 Livres, French Money, to be payed at *Ghent*. That the Prisoner accordingly left *Paris* the 11 of September 1691, and went Post with *Du Mont* to *Menin*; That he defray'd the whole Charge of the Journey, that *Du Mont* acquainted him on the way, That Monsieur *Barbeseux* had promised him an Annual Revenue of 30000 Livres, and to make him a Knight of the Order of *St. Lazarus*, in Case the Design took Effect: That the Prisoner coming to *Menin*, went to the Governor Monsieur *Perthus*, as he had been directed by Monsieur *Barbeseux*, and obtained of him a Passport for *Du Mont*, who parted immediately for *Ghent*, promising the Prisoner, that according to their Agreement he would send to him at the Grand Guard, that the Prisoner thereupon went to the Duke of *Luxemburg's* Army, and he and *Parker* continued at the Head of the Grand Guard till the day before the Rencontre at *Lenze* without hearing from *Du Mont*.

That *Du Mont* going to *Hanover*, the Prisoner had kept a constant Correspondence with him about Executing the same Design, at some other opportunity, that the Prisoner communicated what Letters he Receiv'd from *Du Mont* to Monsieur *Barbeseux*; who gave him Directions what Answers he should return. That the Prisoner resolv'd with Monsieur *Barbeseux*, that the Design should be executed this Campaign, *Ann* 1692. which had failed the last, that the Prisoner had taken some measures concerning the same with Monsieur *Chantais*, Quarter-Master General to the French King.

In the mean time one *Frederick Aelbreyt*, *Leefdale*, heretofore Captain Lieutenant of a Troop of Dragoons, in the Service of the High and Mighty States General of the United Provinces, coming to *Paris*, was brought acquainted with the Prisoner by the means of one *Sterck*; That the Prisoner having contracted an intimate Familiarity with the said *Leefdale*, discovered the said Design to him towards the latter end of *March* last 1692. telling him, that an Officer, who would ingratiate himself in the King's Favour, must venture at something of Consequence; That he the Prisoner, having had concerted the Execution of a Design upon which his Fortune depended; That it was indeed a Matter not without hazard, but the greater the difficulties were, the more would be the Honour, encouraging *Leefdale* to be concerned in it: and the said *Leefdale* shewing a readiness to comply with him, the Prisoner open'd himself with greater freedom, and told him, That he was engaged last Campaign with one *Du Mont*, to Assassinate the King of Great Britain, but it had no effect, by reason of His Majesties leaving the Army so soon, but it was resolved again to put the same in Execution this Year: That *Du Mont* by many repeated Oaths, had Sworn he would do it; yet he the Prisoner feared that if he were not present, *Du Mont* would not so exactly observe his Orders, and therefore he was resolved to go along with *Du Mont*, asking *Leefdale* if he would be of the Party; who answering, That he would; the Prisoner discourg'd to him at large of all particulars concerning the design, and afterwards brought him to Monsieur *Barbiseux*, and *Chaulais*.

That *Chaulais* in one of the Conferences held upon that Subject, told *Leefdale*, the Prisoner being by, that a great reward should be given him, the business succeeding; That *Barbiseux* and *Paparel* had both of them knowledge of the promised Rewards.

That he the Prisoner with the said *Leefdale* and Colonel *Parker*, went to *St. Germain* on the 16th of *April*, 1692. to speak with the late *K. James* about the said Design, who had knowledge of it, and to take leave of him before they began their Journey. That the Prisoner had audience at the same time of the said *K. James*, the late *Queen* being present: *K. James* telling him, *Parker* has given me an account of the business; if you and the other Officers do me this service, you shall never want: And *Parker*, the Prisoner and *Leefdale* entered into a Discourse about this Design.

That *Du Mont*'s Wife delivered to Monsieur *Barbiseux* several Letters, which she received from her Husband whilst he was at *Hanover*; and the Prisoner continuing his correspondence with him all the said time, he engaged *Du Mont* by Letters, especially those dated the 20th and 25th of *April*, and the 12. of *May* last, to come from *Hanover* to a Rendezvous at *Uden*, in the Countrey of *Ravesteyn*, in order to take a final resolution with the said Prisoner and *Leefdale*, concerning the manner

of

*See the rest of this tract misplac'd before in this vol.*



of executing their Design: the Prisoner pressing *Du Mont* to hasten his Journey, for fear the King of England should have occasion to repass the Sea; the Prisoner adding withal, that he should be mad if he failed in his Business.

That the Prisoner, with *Chenlain* and *Leesdale*, were agreed in what manner the Assassinate should be committed on the Person of his Majesty; viz. That when the King should ride along the Lines, or should go out to take any View, or when the Army should Decamp, that *Du Mont* should ly in Ambulcade, and when his Majesty should pass within 100 Paces of him, he should then fire upon the King; That *Chenlain* (to whom notice was to be given before of the time) should be with 3000 Horse at the Duke of *Luxemburg's* Grand Guard; That the Prisoner had told *Leesdale*, there would be no danger for him, since *Du Mont* had a secret to charm peoples eyes, and at all adventures they two would keep those who followed the King; and when every body was pursuing after *Du Mont*, they should have time to escape and save themselves, and carry the Account to Monsieur *Chenlain*; and it little concerned them whether *Du Mont* should be taken or not, provided they could escape themselves; That the Prisoner and *Leesdale* received their last Orders from *Chenlain*, who told them he was going to *Mons*; and that they should stay for him there.

That the Prisoner and *Leesdale* went from *Paris* the 17th April last, and arrived a few days after at *Mons*, having waited some time for Monsieur *Chenlain's* arrival: and finding he did not come, they resolved to go forward to the Rendezvous by the way of *Brussels*: That the Prisoner, as they were travelling on the way, told *Leesdale*, that their Design taking place, the Alliance among the Confederate Princes would be broken: That the Princes concerned would each of them re-call their Troops, and the Countrey being thereby left without Souldiers, the King of *France* would easily make himself Master of it, and King *James* would be restored again.

That the Prisoner parting with *Leesdale* went to the Mayery of *Boisladuc*, and was apprehended at *Eyndhoven*.

And whereas this horrid design is contrary to the Laws of God, of Nature, and of all Nations, and ought for the deterring of others from the like Machinations, to be punished with the greatest Rigour: The said Court-Martial having with mature deliberation examined and considered the whole Matter, have thought fit to Judge and Declare, as they do hereby Declare, the Prisoner to be guilty of High-Treason, and do condemn him to be drawn on a Sledge to the place of Execution, there to be Hanged on a Gallows; to be cut down before he be dead; his Body to be opened, and his Bowels taken out, and burnt; His Head to be set upon a Poll; His Body to be Quartered; And the four Quarters to be hung up where his Majesty shall think fit. And do further declare all his Estate to be Confiscated, and condemn him to bear the Charge and Cost of this Trial. Given and pronounced in the Head Quarters of the Army, under the Command

of His Majesty of Great Britain, by the Earl of Athlone, General of the Horse, President, the Lieutenant-General Van-Straenmoer, and Lieutenant-General Talmash, the Marquis de La Fayette, the Herr van Meede, Count Noyelles, and the Herr Zibel Major-General, and the Brigadiers Churchill and Ramsay's Cornetlim Van Vvon, and Richard Duthways, Judges Advocats assisting, at Lembeck, August 11th 1692.

Signed,

ATHLONE,

and Lower,

By Order of the Court-Martial,

Thomas Du Val.

In pursuance of the Sentence above-mentioned, the Chevalier de Grandval was Executed in the Camp on the 12th day of August, 1692. All that he said at the place of Execution was to recommend himself to the Prayers of those that were present: But the same Morning before he went to Execution, he writ this following Letter.

Du Camp de Halle, ce 13 Aout,  
1692.

From the Camp at Hall, Aug. 13.  
1692.

Mademoiselle,

Madam,

**J**E vous prie d'aller trouver Monsieur l'Archevêque de Rheims, avec Monsieur Jourdaul, & faire connoître au dit Seigneur Archevêque, qu'il m'en a confié la vie, pour avoir obey aux Ordres de Monsieur de Barbesieu. C'est la grâce que vous demande votre serviteur,

**I** Pray you to go to the Archbishop of Rheims, with Monsieur Jourdaul, and to let the said Archbishop know, that it cost me my life for having obeyed the Orders of Monsieur de Barbesieu, which is the Favour desired of you by your Servant.

De Grandval.

De Grandval.

Voyez Monsieur le Marquis d'Arfy, qu'il contribue à faire prier Dieu pour moy.

Speak to the Marquis d'Arfy, That he take care I be pray'd for.

*A Mademoiselle Juré, rue Trevelle, vis à vis de la rue des deux Escus, près de l'Hôtel de Soissons, à Paris.* To Madam Juré, in the Trevelle Street, over-against the Street of the Two Crowns, near the Hotel of Soissons, at Paris.

Upon the Occasion of this Letter, it will not be improper to take Notice of a Passage that happened some days before *Grandvall's* Condemnation, since it has so great an Agreement with the said Letter, and may serve to explain it, if it needed any clearer Light, which is as follows.

One discoursing with the Chevalier *Grandval* in Prison, and observing he sought to justify himself upon the Orders he had received from the Marquis of *Barbesieux*, he told him. Though that was in it self a very weak Excuse for being engaged in a Base Action, yet still it might prove so much the worse, as that it was like enough Monsieur *Barbesieux* would disowne that he gave any such Orders, or that he was any ways concerned with him in a Business of this Nature. To which *Grandvall* reply'd, Let him deny what he pleases, yet if I were put upon it, I would make it appear very plain; for I have an Original Paper under Monsieur *Barbesieux's* own Hand, which I have lodged with a friend of mine, who will not part with it to any one but my self, and no body else knows with whom I have entrusted it.

F I N I S

M. Adam, the said, the Treasurer of the French Republic, in the Town of Paris, over-against the Street of the two Columns, near the Hotel of the said, at Paris.

Upon the Occasion of the Letter, it will not be improper to take Notice of a Letter that happened some days before Grandville's Condemnation, since it was to great an Agreement with the said Letter, and may have to explain it, it needed any clearer Light, which is as follows.

One disagreeing with the Chevalier Grandville in Prison, and observing he thought to justify himself upon the Orders he had received from the Marquis of that Sex, he told him, "I think that was in it told very weak reasons for being engaged in the Action, yet still it might prove to much the worse, as that it was like enough Monsieur Barbeaux would disown that he gave any such Orders, or that he was any way concerned with him in a Business of this Nature. To which Grandville replied, "I feel him deny what he thinks, yet still I were not upon it. I would not be so far from saying, I have an Original Paper under Monsieur Barbeaux's own Hand, I have lodged with a friend of mine, who will not part with any one but myself, and no body else knows in whom I have committed it."



2 1 N 1 2

